

# Legislative Fiscal Bureau

## Fiscal Note

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SF 165 - English As The Official Language (LSB 2095 XS)  
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Fiscal Note Version - New  
Requested by Representative Ed Fallon

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### **Description**

Senate File 165 establishes English as the official language of the State of Iowa and requires all official State and local government business to be conducted in English with certain exceptions.

### **Assumptions**

The following areas are exempt from the English language requirements of Senate File 165: teaching of languages; federal requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; actions, documents, or policies necessary for trade, tourism, commerce, or that protect the public health and safety; actions or documents that pertain to compiling any census of populations or that protect the rights of victims of crimes or criminal defendants; the use of proper names; terms of art; or phrases from language other than English. In addition, any language usage required by or necessary to secure the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America or the Constitution of the State of Iowa is exempted.

An individual member of the general assembly or officer of State government, while performing official business, is not prohibited from communicating through any medium with another person in a language other than English, if that member or officer deems it necessary or desirable to do so.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Senate File 165 is expected to have minimal impact on State Government.

The impact to local governments cannot be determined due to insufficient information from city and county governments; however, any impact is not expected to be significant.

### **Sources**

Iowa Workforce Development  
Department of Economic Development  
Department of Education  
Department of Human Rights  
Civil Rights Commission  
Citizen's Aide Ombudsman's Office

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Dennis C Prouty\_\_\_\_\_

February 5, 2002

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The fiscal note and correction impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

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